

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 55 as follows.

Claims 1-28 (Cancelled).

29. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

receiving a request for a current location of a mobile station in a mobile communication system;

determining a time at which a last known location of the mobile station was determined;

comparing the time to a threshold time limit; and

in response to the comparing, providing, as the current location, the last known location if the time is within the threshold time limit.

30. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 29 further comprising:

determining a current location of the mobile station if the time is not within the threshold limit; and

providing, as the current location, the obtained current location.

31. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 29 wherein the comparing the time to the threshold time limit is dependent upon the status of the mobile station.

32. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 31 wherein if the mobile station is active the comparing is disabled and a current location is determined for the mobile station.

33. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 31 wherein if the status of the mobile station is idle, the comparing is enabled.

34. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 30, wherein if a current location is not provided, the last known location is provided as the current location.

35. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 29 further comprising storing the last known location of a mobile station together with a time associated with the last known location.

36. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 29 further comprising storing the threshold time limit.

37. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 29 further comprising dynamically adjusting the threshold time limit.

38. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 29 wherein the threshold time limit is set by a network operator.

39. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 29 wherein the threshold limit is included in the request for the current location.

40. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 29 wherein the time is an elapsed time.

41. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

- receiving at a network element a request from an application for a current location of a mobile station in a mobile communication system;
- determining, at the network element, a time at which a last known location of the mobile station was determined;
- comparing, at the network element, the time to a threshold time limit; and
- in response to the comparing, providing to the application, as the current location, the last known location if the time is within the threshold time limit.

42. (Previously Presented) A network element comprising:
means for receiving a request for a current location of a mobile station in a mobile communication system;
means for determining a time at which a last known location of the mobile station was determined;
means for comparing the time to a threshold time limit; and
means for providing, as the current location, in response to the comparing, the last known location if the time is within the threshold time limit.

43. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 42 further comprising means for determining a current location for the mobile station if the time is not within the threshold limit; wherein the means for providing is adapted to provide, as the current location, the obtained current location.

44. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 42 wherein the means for comparing the time to the threshold time limit is responsive to a signal indicating the status of the mobile station.

45. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 44 responsive to said signal indicating that the mobile station is active the comparing means is disabled and a current location is determined for the mobile station.

46. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 44 wherein responsive to said signal indicating that the mobile station is idle, the comparing means is enabled.

47. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 43, wherein if a current location is not provided, the network element is adapted to provide the last known location is provided as the current location.

48. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 42 further comprising means for storing the last known location of a mobile station together with a time associated with the last known location.

49. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 42 further comprising means for storing the threshold time limit.

50. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 42 further comprising means for dynamically adjusting the threshold time limit.

51. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 42 wherein the threshold time limit is set by a network operator.

52. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 42 wherein the threshold time limit is included in the request for a current location.

53. (Previously Presented) A mobile communication system comprising:

- an application configured to provide location dependent services and to generate a location request for a user equipment;
- a network element configured to receive the request for a current location of a mobile station;
- a network element configured to determine a time at which a last known location of the mobile station was determined and to compare the time to a threshold time limit;
- and
- a network element configured to provide, as the current location, in response to the comparing, the last known location if the time is within the threshold time limit.

54. (Previously Presented) A mobile communication system according to claim 53, wherein the network element for determining the time at which the last known location was determined includes a visitor location register.

55. (Currently Amended) A mobile communication system according to claim 53 wherein the system implements a customized applications for mobile network enhanced logic (CAMEL) framework.

56. (Previously Presented) A mobile communication system according to claim 53 wherein the system implements location services.

57. (Previously Presented) A network element comprising:

- a receiving unit configured to receive a request for a current location of a mobile station in a mobile communication system;
- a determining unit configured to determine a time at which a last known location of the mobile station was determined;
- a comparing unit configured to compare the time to a threshold time limit; and
- a providing unit configured to provide, as the current location, in response to the comparing, the last known location if the time is within the threshold time limit.

58. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 57 further comprising a determining unit configured to determine a current location for the mobile station if the time is not within the threshold limit; wherein the providing unit is configured to provide, as the current location, the obtained current location.

59. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 57 wherein the comparing unit is responsive to a signal indicating the status of the mobile station.

60. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 59 responsive to said signal indicating that the mobile station is active the comparing unit is disabled and a current location is determined for the mobile station.

61. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 59 wherein responsive to said signal indicating that the mobile station is idle, the comparing unit is enabled.

62. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 58, wherein if a current location is not provided, the network element is configured to provide the last known location as the current location.

63. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 57 further comprising a storing unit configured to store the last known location of a mobile station together with a time associated with the last known location.

64. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 57 further comprising a storing unit configured to store the threshold time limit.

65. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 57 further comprising an adjusting unit configured to dynamically adjust the threshold time limit.

66. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 57 wherein the threshold time limit is set by a network operator.

67. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 57 wherein the threshold time limit is included in the request for a current location.